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LETTER DATED 3 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF CROATIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I have the honour to submit, enclosed herewith, a letter by the President of the Republic of Croatia, Dr. Franjo Tudjman, addressed to you.

I would be grateful if you would provide for the distribution of this letter and its annex as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Mario NOBILO
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 3 June 1993 from the President of the Republic of Croatia addressed to the Secretary-General

The Republic of Croatia is grateful to the United Nations and to you personally for all the efforts made so far, and currently being continued, to stop the war and promote the peace process in Croatia. At this time, when decisions are being made regarding the extension of the mandate and the authority of UNPROFOR in the Republic of Croatia, as well as regarding further measures to stop the war and implement the peace plan in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, I am addressing you in order to prevent the further deterioration of the situation and bring about a peaceful solution.

1. Serbian aggression against the Republic of Croatia, a Member State of the United Nations, is continuing in the UNPAs. Armed provocations and attacks on Croatian cities (Zadar, Biograd, Sibenik, Gospić) have intensified in recent days, accompanied by destruction of civil targets and loss of human life. At the same time, the local population in the UNPAs is being terrorized on an ever increasing scale, Croats and other non-Serbian residents are being detained and maltreated, the most active perpetrators of such actions being volunteers from Serbia whose number amounts to several thousands in all sectors.

   The Serbian side has unilaterally broken off the negotiations between the representatives of the local Serbs and the representatives of the Government of the Republic of Croatia. The president of the self-proclaimed Assembly of the so-called "Republic of Serbian Krajina", Mr. Mile Paspalj has convened a session of the "Krajina Parliament" on Saturday, 5 June 1993, in Petrinja, to discuss, among other matters, the scheduling of a referendum on "the integration of the Republic of Serbian Krajina with the Republic of Srpska and other Serbian lands". This is a call for integration with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, i.e. Serbia and Montenegro, in other words, the creation of a "Greater-Serbia".

   The aggressive policy of Belgrade and the ringleaders of the Serbian rebellion in the Republic of Croatia is obviously intensifying, as manifested significantly by the total non-acceptance and rejection of all relevant United Nations resolutions, and of the international legal order, aimed at absorbing parts of the territory of two sovereign United Nations Member States, the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

   Quite obviously, such a position is totally unacceptable to the Republic of Croatia, as it is contrary to the United Nations Charter and all relevant Security Council resolutions, and particularly to Security Council resolution 815 (1993) which stipulates that the UNPAs are integral parts of the territory of the Republic of Croatia.

2. Louder and louder demands are being heard, including statements made in the Assembly of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, calling for the re-occupation of Prevlaka, which do not contribute to the appeasement of

the situation, but, rather, constitute open threats and territorial pretensions towards the Republic of Croatia.

3. The dramatic situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina is also deteriorating, battles are being fought which are resulting in scores of military and civilian casualties, and there are ever more casualties among members of relief organizations and UNPROFOR troops. The established humanitarian corridors are not being respected and, in spite of all the efforts of the international community, humanitarian aid is not reaching its destinations regularly.

In view of the foregoing, and particularly in the absence of effective decisions by the international community to implement the United Nations Security Council resolutions, adopted thus far, we are deeply concerned about further possible developments of the situation. In accordance with the goal of Croatian policy to the aggression and the creation of conditions for the achievement of peace - we resolutely urge as follows:

(a) In accordance with United Nations Security Council resolution 769 (1992), as well as resolutions 757 (1992), 787 (1992) and 820 (1993) regarding sanctions against Serbia and Montenegro, it is necessary to establish without delay international control and securing of the international borders between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro) which adjoin the UNPAs.

(b) Concerning the situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the unfounded accusations that Croatia is involved in the internal conflicts in Bosnia and Herzegovina, we suggest that UNPROFOR take effective control and secure all the borders of Bosnia and Herzegovina. This means that we also accept, within the framework of the control of all borders of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the international control of the entire border between the Republic of Croatia and the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and not only those adjoining the UNPAs.

I am convinced that the control of borders is an indispensable and crucial step towards ending the war and the aggression and achieving a peaceful solution subsequent to the Security Council resolutions. Let me assure Your Excellency that Croatia is prepared to implement, as soon as possible, all relevant Security Council resolutions in order to establish a lasting and stable peace in the territory of the former Yugoslavia. In spite of all the gravity and tragedy of the situation in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Croatia cannot and must not be a hostage to these events, but the international community should actively seek a solution to the crucial issue of the UNPAs in Croatia and the militant conduct of the rebellious Serbs of these areas. I believe that this issue could be resolved separately from the crisis in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and that the successful implementation of the Vance plan in the UNPAs will have a strategically positive impact on promoting the comprehensive implementation of the Vance-Owen plan in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Croatia will be prepared to accept the extension of the UNPROFOR mandate based on clear guidelines for the implementation of the Vance plan and of the relevant Security Council resolutions.

Your role, Your Excellency, in the resolution of the crisis in the former Yugoslavia is of the utmost importance. In order to witness the seriousness of the events in the Republic of Croatia, and to familiarize yourself on the spot with the realistic possibilities for a peaceful solution to the benefit of all its citizens, you are cordially invited to visit the Republic of Croatia. You are most welcome here, and your visit would surely contribute greatly to a resolution of these issues.

President of the Republic of Croatia
Dr. Franjo Tudjman